

## Daily Devotional, January 12, 2021 Enduring Love

***Arrogant foes are attacking me, O God; ruthless people are trying to kill me—they have no regard for you. But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength in behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did. Psalms 86:14-16 (NIV)***

There have been many times when I have witnessed the grace of God at work in my life. I cannot begin to count the times that I have failed to measure up to God's standards. Even though I have proven to be far from perfect, I can say with the deepest of gratitude, that God has continued to stay by my side. God has not given up on me. God has instead forgiven me.

It is overwhelming to think about the depth of God's love for all of God's people. I have often had a hard time understanding how God's long-suffering, ever enduring patience goes so far; that is, until I had children of my own.

No one can test a person's patience more than their own children. Perhaps it is because, as parents, our hopes and expectations for our children are ever so high. Or maybe it is that we just spend so much of our time with them that we become delusional in our expectations for them. Either way, when my children were young, there were moments when they really could test my patience. Don't get me wrong, I love my children deeply, but even in their adult years, there are moments when they know how to push my buttons. Sometimes they ignore me, sometimes they do the exact opposite of what their mom and I ask and hope of them.

Yet, no matter what my children have done over the years, I have yet to find a time when my heart is not filled with love for them. They may have tested the limits of my patience, but they will never see a time when my love for them will end.

If my love for my children is so great, how much more is God's love for God's children? Who can even begin to imagine the depths of God's limitless, bottomless love?

I hope you will pause for a moment today and give thanks that our God's love is so wonderful. I for one am grateful that God's love knows no end. I am thankful for His patience with me. I pray we all can share this limitless, bottomless love with our neighbors and loved ones.

***Prayer: Father, we praise You for Your consistency. Thank You that though we are incapable of being consistently good, loving, and righteous, you are those things for us. Forgive us for our inconsistency, and bless us, that we may know Your love for us never changes. You are always loving, and for that we give thanks. In Jesus' Name, Amen.***